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KITCHEN  
HOUSEHOLD  
CURRENT SERIAL REG  
1943  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

# Kitchen

# Intruders

ROACHES GNATS



## Why Tolerate Them?

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

AWI-70

October 1943

# HOW TO CONTROL KITCHEN

**I**NSECTS are constantly in search of food. When they locate it, they either remain to lay their eggs on it, leave to return alone, or return in company with other insects. These habits suggest some methods for control.

## KEEP FOOD OUT OF THEIR REACH

1. Place tight covers on foods likely to attract insects.
2. Remove food refuse from kitchen after each meal.
3. Keep garbage in tight container under tight cover.
4. Scrub garbage can frequently.
5. Allow no dirty dishes to accumulate in kitchen.

## PREVENT PESTS FROM ENTERING

1. Screen to keep out flies.
2. Plug openings to exclude cockroaches. Cracks under baseboards, around plumbing, etc., may be filled with putty, plaster of paris, or plastic material.
3. Examine vegetables and containers brought into the kitchen from the market and kill any roaches found.

## ELIMINATE THEIR BREEDING PLACES

1. Dispose of or compost garbage, piles of manure, grass cuttings, and other decaying matter every week during the fly season. Flies breed in such material.
2. Eat or preserve ripe fruit before it becomes attractive as a breeding place to pomace flies (gnats) or store it in the ice box.
3. Fumigate the nests of ants with paradichlorobenzene or other fumigants. Ants live in colonies, and their nests are in the soil or in decaying wood.

## POISON THEIR PATHS WITH POWDER

1. Sprinkle colored sodium fluoride very thinly under sinks, baseboards, and other dry places frequented by roaches and ants. The insects that crawl on the powder will be killed. **Keep the poison out of children's reach.**
2. Use pyrethrum powder or borax the same way sodium fluoride is used.

## KILL INSECTS WITH SPRAYS

Spraying with AA (grade) household sprays, usually made of kerosene and pyrethrum extract, will kill most of the insects hit with the spray. But a spray does not reach the source of the insects.

# IN PESTS

## USE THESE POISON BAITS

**but keep them out of the reach of children and pets**

Poison bait is most effective if other sources of food and moisture have been removed. Many good, commercially prepared baits are on the market.

Ant baits contain killing agents such as tartar emetic, sodium arsenate, or sodium arsenite. A satisfactory bait may be prepared by dissolving 4 ounces of sugar in 1 quart of water and stirring in  $\frac{1}{2}$  ounce of tartar emetic. For grease-eating ants, mix tartar emetic with some form of grease. A piece of sponge serves as a good vehicle for ant baits. Ants carry poison to the nest, where it kills the brood.

A cockroach bait of phosphorus paste may be spread on a piece of cardboard and rolled loosely. If placed where roaches abound, it will be a good control.

A housefly bait may be made from 3 teaspoonfuls of formalin, 1 pint of milk, and a little brown sugar. Lay a blotter over a saucer and invert these over a glass containing some of the bait. Hold the saucer tightly to the glass and turn it upside down. Place a matchstick under the edge of the glass if the bait doesn't feed fast enough.

## SET TRAPS FOR FLIES

Conical-hoop fly traps, properly baited and placed, will help to reduce the fly population.

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## Waste food

The presence of these insects in food causes much of it to be discarded.

## Carry disease

The housefly is especially dangerous because it carries the organisms of typhoid fever, diarrhea, dysentery, cholera, tuberculosis, and other diseases.

## Annoy the household

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